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Botticelli and Amico



TOBIAS AND THE ARCHANGELS (Turin Gallery)
BY AMICO DI SANDRO (G. Bell & Sons)

most of the authorities on Italian Art have credited with a number of Amico's works, such as 'The Adoration of the Magi' and 'Madonna and Child' at our National Gallery.

There is an interesting point to be noted in connection with the 'Tobias and the Archangels' of the Turin Gallery, catalogued as Botticelli, but now placed to the credit of Amico. The figure of Tobias is absolutely identical with that in 'The Angel Raphael accompanying Tobias on his journey into Media,' No. 781 at the National Gallery. There are many other reasons which might lead one to believe that both works are painted by the same hand, and yet one can hardly suppose a picture of such importance as the National Gallery 'Tobias' to have escaped the notice of as thorough an expert as Mr. Berenson. We prefer to think that the author regards it as a copy of Amico's 'Tobias,' a view which might be defended on the evidence of the right hand in both works. In the Turin version Tobias's fingers are linked with those of the Archangel Raphael. In the National Gallery picture

Tobias's hand rests on the Archangel's arm, but the position of the fingers—especially of the raised little finger—is identical with the Turin picture, though, in this case, there is no reason whatever for it. This would point towards thoughtless copying, of which the master himself would scarcely have been guilty.

Mr. Berenson suggests the possibility of his Amico di Sandro's identity with the Berto Linainolo, mentioned in Vasari. There are a number of other equally interesting essays in the volume, accompanied by numerous illustrations of works which are not generally known and difficult of access. A most valuable addition to the history of Italian Art.

COUNTRY HOUSES.

If a book which can of necessity only appeal to a limited circle of readers passes rapidly through five editions, it may well dispense with the reviewer's praise. This is the case with a volume that has just been published

Bungalows



by Mr. B. T. Batsford, a revised and enlarged edition of Mr. Briggs's 'Bungalow and Country Residences,'* which contains no less than 47 plates, illustrative of country houses, designed by this able and versatile architect. They range from small, one-storied bungalows, which can be erected at the small cost of £400, to palatial country houses, and embrace every suitable style of architecture. The book is intended less for professional architects than for private people in want of a summer retreat, to whom it will give most valuable suggestions. Its object, as explained by the author, is, to show that 'houses that would let for about £80 or £90 per annum, can each have its own individuality, and that it is not necessary that cheap houses should be distinctive only by their ugliness and vulgarity.'

In explaining the nature of a Bungalow, Mr. Briggs says: 'A Bungalow in England has come to mean neither the sun-proof squathouse of India, nor the rough log hut of colder regions. It is not necessarily a one-storied building, nor is it a country cottage. A Bungalow essentially is a little 'nook' or 'retreat': A Cottage is a little

house in the country, but a Bungalow is a little country house—a homely, cosy little place, with verandahs and balconies, and the plan so arranged as to ensure complete comfort, with a feeling of rusticity and ease.' Each plate is supplemented by a few lines of description, explaining cost, material and general plan.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

MESSRS. Fisher Unwin have in course of preparation an important illustrated volume on the life of Segantini, the great Austrian Alpine painter. It will be profusely illustrated with re-productions of the master's works.

Quite a series of Art publications has been announced for the forthcoming season by Messrs. Chapman and Hall. 'Modelling' by Prof. E. Lanteri, 'Progressive Design for Students' by James Ward, 'Floral Studies for Decorative Designs' by James Ward, 'Perspective for Art Students' by G. Hatton, 'The Human Figure in Motion' by E. Maybridge, 'A Book of Studies in in Plant Form' by A. E. V. Lilley & W. Midgley, and 'A Practical Handbook of Drawing' by C. G. Harper are among the volumes announced.

* Bungalows and Country Residences by R. A. Briggs, Architect, F.R.I.B.A. (London: B. T. Batsford, 1901).